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# THE DAY BOOK

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## THE DEATH OF ANNA IMROTH IN RIORDAN'S FACTORY FIRE WAS PLAIN MURDER

*Building Laws of State Broken; Those of City Evaded  
by Trickery—Woman Burned to Death  
Leaves Boy to Mourn Her.*

"All doors used by employees as exits from any factory shall open outward and shall be so constructed as to be easily and immediately opened from within in case of fire or other emergency."  
—From a Law of the Sovereign State of Illinois.

Anna Imroth of 1443 North Forty-third avenue was burned to death in the fire that destroyed the T. G. Riordan factory at 2010 West Kinzie street.

Her burned body was found by a fireman crumpled up against a door on the ground floor of the factory.

That door opened inward. If it had opened outward, as required by the state law, Anna Imroth might be alive today.

These facts will be brought out at the inquest over the body of Anna Imroth, which was to have been held today, but which was indefinitely postponed because

two of the girls injured in the fire are still in the hospital and were unable to testify.

But there is a still more important violation of the law in connection with the Riordan factory which ought to be, but probably will not be, brought out at the inquest.

There is a city ordinance under which all buildings of three or more stories in height must be provided with fire escapes and must have a certain amount of steel in their construction.

The Riordan factory really is three stories high. But the ground floor is dropped about two feet below the sidewalk and is called a "basement" by the Riordan company.

In this way the Riordan company avoided putting up fire escapes, or in any way bringing their building under the ordinance in regard to buildings of three or more stories in height.